

**Security Council**

Distr.: General
27 November 2013
English
Original: Arabic

Identical letters dated 25 November 2013 from the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I wish to draw your attention to the position of the Syrian Arab Republic of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Security Council resolution [1701 \(2006\)](#) for the period from 29 June 2013 to 13 November 2013 ([S/2013/650](#)).

The Syrian Arab Republic reiterates its firm commitment to the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of Lebanon. It remains committed to cooperation with the Lebanese side in order to ensure respect for the national sovereignty and territorial integrity of the two kindred countries, for the benefit of the security and stability of both.

The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic also reiterates the position set forth in numerous letters addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council regarding implementation of Security Council resolution [1701 \(2006\)](#). It is surprised that the Secretariat persists in mentioning the Syrian Arab Republic in its reports on the topic, particularly as the resolution has to do with the Israeli aggression on Lebanon.

The report refers to the migration into Lebanon, owing to the activities of armed terrorist groups, of Syrian citizens and of Palestine refugees resident in Syria. That subject falls outside the mandate of the resolution. The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic warns against exploiting the suffering of the migrants for political purposes. It recalls that the political programme put forward by President Bashar Al-Assad to resolve the crisis in Syria includes guarantees for all Syrian citizens who wish to return, as well as measures to facilitate their return.

The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic rejects the Israeli claims concerning the transfer of weapons to Lebanon. Those claims are a desperate attempt to distract attention from the real threat, namely Israel's own aggressive policies, which endanger international peace and security in the region as a whole. We wish to draw your attention to Israel's direct involvement in supporting armed terrorist groups in Syria, which we have detailed in numerous other letters.

The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic affirms that the Syrian Arab Army has continued to defend all Syrian territory and respond to terrorist groups, which are armed and funded by States and actors that are now well known. It is now



clear that well-known Lebanese political actors are seeking to destabilize Syria by arming and funding terrorist groups and facilitating their passage into Syria.

The Syrian Arab Republic reiterates that the delineation of the border is a question of sovereignty and a bilateral issue that should be decided by the States when the conditions on the ground permit. The delineation of borders in the Shab'a Farms area should take place after the Israeli occupation of that area has come to an end in accordance with the authoritative international resolutions.

I should be grateful if the present letter could be issued as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Bashar **Ja'afari**
Permanent Representative
of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations
